

CHERRYDALE HISTORIC DISTRICT

National Register Nomination Abstract

The Cherrydale Historic District in Arlington County, Virginia, is a significant residential suburb of Washington, D.C., dating from the first half of the 20th century. Located at the intersection of Military Road and Lee Highway, Cherrydale began to develop in the late 19th century from a rural agricultural crossroads into a residential community with a commercial corridor. The relocation of the Alexandria County Courthouse to Arlington in 1898 and the establishment of a commuter railroad in 1906 initiated a period of rapid residential and commercial development in the Cherrydale area that began with the subdivision of a portion of the Schutt property around the turn of the 20th century for family members. For the next fifty years, large tracts of land in Cherrydale both north and south of Lee Highway were subdivided into a series of residential developments of varying sizes. The earliest and most substantial of these were Dominion Heights, West Cherrydale, and Cherrydale, dedicated in 1905, 1907, and 1912, respectively. Conceived independently, the various residential subdivisions that make up Cherrydale today began to be associated as one neighborhood in the mid-20th century, largely due to the pattern of development of key transportation routes in the area, namely Lorcom Lane, Interstate 66, Military Road, Lee Highway, and North Utah Street. Architecturally, Cherrydale features both single-family and multiple-family freestanding and attached dwellings representing the fashionable residential building forms and styles of the late 19th and first half of the 20th centuries. The Cherrydale commercial corridor, generally confined to Lee Highway, is representative of commercial building forms and styles of the 20th century and documents the impact of the various transportation modes on the neighborhood since the construction of the first commercial resource in 1869.

Eligible under criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places, the Cherrydale Historic District has a period of significance extending from 1898 to 1953 and reflects the themes of architecture and community planning and development. There are 956 contributing resources in the historic district and 352 non-contributing resources.